

MEDIA RELEASE

CONTACT:

- Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary, Dudley Board of Selectmen, (508) 949-8001 or selectmen1@dudleyma.gov
- Bill Scanlan, Town Planner, Dudley Planning Board, (508) 949-8014 or planner@dudleyma.gov
- Matthew Wzorek, Project Manager, Tighe & Bond, (413) 572-3274 or MPWzorek@tigheBond.com
- Andrew Loew, Project Manager, Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, (508) 459-3339 or ALoew@cmrpc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 2020

Public Forum for Dudley's Jericho-Brandon Infrastructure Plan

The Town of Dudley will hold a public forum for the Town's ongoing Jericho-Brandon Infrastructure Plan project on Thursday, October 22 at 5:30PM at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, in the Veteran's Memorial Hall (Room 321A). Socially distanced seating will be available. Persons interested in attending the forum in-person must notify Michelle Jervis in the Board of Selectmen's office by October 20 at selectmen1@dudleyma.gov or 508 949-8001. The forum will be broadcast live by Dudley Cable Access TV (Station 192) and video will later be available on the Town's website, www.dudleyma.gov, along with project documentation. Neighborhood residents and other interested parties are encouraged to attend or otherwise participate.

At the forum, the Town's engineering consultant will discuss the initial results of its extensive field survey of drainage systems, water and sewer mains, roads, and sidewalks in the Jericho neighborhood and on Brandon Road and abutting streets. The overall goals of the project are 1) to evaluate existing infrastructure systems in the project area; 2) to develop concepts for improvement projects in key areas; and 3) to produce a final plan with prioritized and phased recommendations for implementation, for use in local planning and in seeking additional grant funds for detailed design and construction.



Sidewalk conditions at the corner of Oak Street and Green Street.

This part of Dudley is currently served by water, sewer and stormwater drainage systems dating to the early and middle 1900s. Water mains in parts of the neighborhood are undersized or made from hard-to-maintain materials. Some sewer lines are prone to clogs or suffer from infiltration or inflow. Stormwater infrastructure is lacking in parts of the neighborhood and, where present, is not always adequate for today's intense storms. Aside from aging subsurface infrastructure, surface elements such as roads, sidewalks and crosswalks in the area are generally older and are mostly not handicapped-friendly.



Sidewalk conditions along Williams Street and James Street.

At the forum, residents and other stakeholders will have a chance to voice their concerns about infrastructure in the project area and will be able to review and comment on the engineers' field evaluation work to date. The Town of Dudley invites residents who have knowledge of neighborhood infrastructure issues like flood-prone roadways, deteriorated sidewalks, or low water pressure to bring their local knowledge to the forum or to submit comments by email.

Tighe & Bond's Westfield-based engineering team is the Town's consultant for this project. The project is funded through a FY 2019 Community Development Block Grant to Dudley from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development. This grant is administered on behalf of the town by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC). Questions about the public forum should be directed to Michelle Jervis at the Board of Selectmen's Office, at (508) 949-8001 or selectmen1@dudleyma.gov, or Andrew Loew at the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, at 508 459-3339 or ALoew@cmrpc.org. Questions or comments about the findings of the engineering study to date should be directed to Matthew Wzorek at Tighe & Bond, 413 572-3274 or MPWzorek@tigheBond.com.



Clogged drain at Marshall Terrace.